



## Fill in the gaps

### Major-General's Song by Gilbert And Sullivan

...

I am the very model of a modern Major-General  
I've information vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I know the kings of England  
And I quote the fights historical  
From Marathon to Waterloo, in (1)\_\_\_\_\_ categorical  
I'm (2)\_\_\_\_\_ well acquainted, too, with matters  
mathematical  
I understand equations, both the simple and quadratical  
About binomial theorem I'm teeming with a lot o' news  
(Hmm, lot of news.... Got it!)  
With (3)\_\_\_\_\_ (4)\_\_\_\_\_ facts  
About the square of the hypotenuse  
...

I'm very good at integral and differential calculus  
I know the scientific (5)\_\_\_\_\_ of beings animalculous  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very (6)\_\_\_\_\_ of a modern Major-General  
...

I know our mythic history  
King Arthur's and Sir Caradoc's  
I (7)\_\_\_\_\_ hard acrostics, I've a pretty taste for  
paradox  
I quote in elegiacs all the crimes of Heliogabalus  
In conics I can floor (8)\_\_\_\_\_  
parabolous  
I can (9)\_\_\_\_\_ undoubted  
Raphaels from Gerard Dows and Zoffanies  
I know the croaking chorus  
From The Frogs of Aristophanes  
Then I can hum a fugue  
Of which I've heard the music's din afore  
(Ooh, din afore, din afore... Got it!)  
And whistle all the airs  
From that infernal nonsense Pinafore  
...

Then I can write a washing bill in Babylonian cuneiform  
And tell you (10)\_\_\_\_\_ detail of Caractacus's uniform  
In short, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a modern Major-General  
...

In fact  
When I know what is (11)\_\_\_\_\_ by "mamelon" and  
"ravelin"  
When I can tell at sight a Mauser rifle from a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties

And (12)\_\_\_\_\_ I'm (13)\_\_\_\_\_ wary at  
And when I know precisely  
What is (14)\_\_\_\_\_ by "commissariat"  
When I have learnt  
What progress has been made in modern gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a (15)\_\_\_\_\_ in a  
nunnery  
In short, when I've a smattering of (16)\_\_\_\_\_  
strategy  
(Oh, that's a hard one, strategy... Got it!)  
You'll say a better Major-General has never sat a-gee  
...

For my military knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventure  
Has only been brought down  
To the beginning of the century  
But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the (17)\_\_\_\_\_ model of a modern Major-General  
...

(One more time?!)  
...

In fact  
When I know (18)\_\_\_\_\_ is meant by "mamelon" and  
"ravelin"  
When I can (19)\_\_\_\_\_ at sight a Mauser  
(20)\_\_\_\_\_ from a javelin  
When such affairs as sorties  
And surprises I'm more wary at  
And when I (21)\_\_\_\_\_ precisely  
What is meant by "commissariat"  
When I have learnt  
What progress has (22)\_\_\_\_\_ (23)\_\_\_\_\_ in modern  
gunnery  
When I know more of tactics than a novice in a nunnery  
In short, when I've a smattering of elemental strategy  
You'll say a better Major-General has never (24)\_\_\_\_\_ a  
horse!  
...

For my (25)\_\_\_\_\_ knowledge  
Though I'm plucky and adventure  
Has only been (26)\_\_\_\_\_ down  
To the beginning of the century  
But still, in matters vegetable, animal, and mineral  
I am the very model of a (27)\_\_\_\_\_ Major-General!  
...



**Fill in the gaps**

**Answer**

1. order
2. very
3. many
4. cheerful
5. names
6. model
7. answer
8. peculiarities
9. tell
10. every
11. meant
12. surprises
13. more
14. meant
15. novice
16. elemental
17. very
18. what
19. tell
20. rifle
21. know
22. been
23. made
24. rode
25. military
26. brought
27. modern